

strong bipartisan compromise on vessel discharge legislation signed into law. This bill protects waters across our country from the environmental and economic risk of the spread of invasive species contained in ballast water, while also providing regulatory certainty for vessel owners and mariners. To reach this agreement, my colleagues and I did not settle for what was easy or what was expedient. These improvements in the VIDA title have taken a great deal of time and energy, and they were the right thing to do. Specifically, they will reduce the risks posed by ballast water discharges that enter our waterways, minimize the likelihood of introducing invasive species along our coasts and in the Great Lakes, while still ensuring these discharges are regulated under the Clean Water Act. I know the Senator from South Dakota shares my hope that the President signs this legislation expeditiously. He and I will make sure that the legislative history regarding this provision is clear.

TRIBUTE TO SHEL GROSS

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Shel Gross, director of Public Policy for Mental Health America of Wisconsin, MHA, on his retirement. Throughout his career, Shel has helped everyday Wisconsinites in their battle with mental health issues and has been a powerful advocate, peer, mentor, and leader in elevating the voices of those struggling with mental illness.

Shel has been the director of Public for MHA of Wisconsin since April 2000. During his tenure, he has significantly expanded the array of community-based mental health services that support recovery and independence. Wisconsin owes Shel a debt of gratitude for raising awareness of both the tragedy and treatability of many serious mental health afflictions.

Shel's greatest accomplishment is his tremendous work in reducing the prevalence of suicide in Wisconsin. As project manager for MHA's statewide prevention/early intervention initiative in mental health, he focused on improving the quality of behavioral healthcare to help lower Wisconsin's suicide rate. According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, over 700 Wisconsin residents die each year by suicide. Another 5,500 Wisconsin residents are hospitalized due to intentional, self-inflicted injury. As project manager of a suicide prevention grant, Shel made it his life's work to reduce the number of people affected by suicide or suicide attempts, work that deserves the utmost praise and appreciation.

The Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force, MHTF, awarded Shel the Karen Avery Award in 2017, which honors those who have shown tremendous advocacy and leadership in advancing the rights of people with disabilities. Working hand-in-hand with the award's

namesake, Shel helped establish the Grassroots Empowerment Project, GEP, to create opportunities for people seeking mental health recovery and wellness to exercise power in their lives. Shel has been a prominent voice for recognizing and tapping the power of community to help heal the isolation of depression.

Shel will be deeply missed by his colleagues and all those who consider him a loyal friend and passionate advocate. I know Shel will continue to be a valuable voice on these important issues after retirement, but I congratulate him on this milestone and wish him the very best in this new chapter.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

• Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 150th anniversary of Wayne State University. Located in the heart of Detroit, MI, Wayne State University provides world-class education and has made a tremendous impact on the community that surrounds it.

In 1868, just over 30 years after the State of Michigan joined the Union, the development of what would become Wayne State University began with the establishment of the Detroit Medical College by five physicians who were inspired to improve medical education after their service in the Civil War. Following shortly thereafter, the Detroit Normal Training School—the predecessor of the college of education—was founded.

At the turn of the 20th century, the school saw rapid transformation and development. A change in attitudes brought on by the progressive movement between 1890 and 1920 impacted institutions across America. In 1917, the Detroit College of Medicine and Surgery admitted its first female students, as the Detroit Normal Training School began admitting married women. These milestones in the school's history coincided with the culmination of women's suffrage in the United States. In 1934, the Wayne University name was adopted, eventually becoming Wayne State University in 1956, after the Michigan State Legislature approved public act 183.

Year after year, Wayne's footprint would grow to include more programs and opportunities for students to excel. Growth of that footprint included Detroit City Law School, which was founded in 1927 and later became part of Wayne University in 1933. Moreover, as veterans from World War II came home and acclimated into civilian life, Wayne University established the office of veteran affairs to help veterans continue their education, enter vocational training programs, and transition into the workforce. With the introduction of the GI bill, Wayne University's programs saw it well posi-

tioned to increase its veteran enrollment.

In 1950, the former central high school and main building of the College of the City of Detroit was renamed Old Main, becoming one of the City of Detroit's and Wayne University's most notable landmarks.

The 1960s proved to be a pivotal time in American history, with the civil rights movement and the Vietnam war serving as the backdrop of the public's conscience, ushering in a new era of barrier breaking civic engagement. Throughout the 1960s, Wayne State University continued to build on its rich tradition of progressivism by establishing the office of counseling for the handicapped, the center for urban studies, and covering pertinent social issues in the school newspaper.

Continuing to build on its record of success, Wayne State launched doctoral programs in the college of pharmacy and college of nursing, and established the college of urban, labor, and metropolitan affairs, and college of fine and performing arts. In 1994, Wayne State was recognized for its research and was classified as a Research I university by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Ever mindful of its position within the community as a bridge for stakeholders across all fields of endeavor, Wayne State has forged numerous partnerships to empower the community and its students to succeed in a rapidly changing world. In 2004, the first phase of TechTown was completed, which brought Wayne State together with the Henry Ford Health System and General Motors to support entrepreneurship and technological advancement. In 2013, Wayne State named M. Roy Wilson as president of the university, and he has continued this rich legacy of community partnerships.

Throughout its 150-year history, Wayne State University has fostered an environment of innovation, inclusion, and community. The university is deeply rooted in the city of Detroit and has been an indispensable partner in the city's development and renewal. I am proud to be a law school alumnus and am certain that Wayne State will continue to succeed in its mission to cultivate the Warrior Strong leaders of tomorrow. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this important milestone in the history of Wayne State University as it celebrates its sesquicentennial.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PELHAM BATESVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT—FIRE DISTRICT

• Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, today it is my pleasure to honor the Pelham Batesville Fire Department, as the fire district celebrates its 50th anniversary. Since 1968, the district and fire department have dutifully provided fire and rescue services to a large area of upstate South Carolina, including parts of Greenville County, Spartanburg County, and Greer.